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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Free Territory of Trieste

DATE DISTR. 6 March 1951

SUBJECT Future Status of Zone B

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THE FOLLOWING REPORT WAS PREVIOUSLY

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- 1. On 22 February 1951 Ivan Rejent, a member of the Jentral Committee of the Communist Party of Slovenia, met in Capodistria (Koper) with leading Titoist officials of Zone A and Zone B. Among those present from Zone A were Branko Babic, Ante (Anton?) Ukmar and Joze Dekleva. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the future status of the Free Territory of Trieste. The nature of the discussions is unknown. It was noted, however, that local Slovene officials in Capodistria appeared distressed after the meeting.
- 2. At the 12 March London Conference of Yugoslav, Italian and British officials, the following will occur:
 - Yugoslavia and Italy will agree to conclude a pact of mutual assistance, both economic and military.
 - b. Italy will agree formally to recognize the existing Yugoslav-Italian border as outlined in the Peace Treaty.
 - c. That part of Zone B north of the Dragona (Dragonja) River will be incorporated into Zone A. At a later date the Zone B area between the Dragona and Guieto (Mirna) Rivers also will be incorporated into Zone A. Zonal changes will not affect the continuance of the Free Territory, although Italian influence will be extended in the newly acquired areas of Zone A.
- 3. Army officers currently living in Capodistria (Koper) were allegedly instructed on 24 February 1951 to seek new quarters for themselves and their families in Umago (Umag), Buie (Buje) and other towns in the southern section of Zone B.

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- 4. Officers of 3 Battalion stationed at Villa Decani (Dekani) have reportedly been making trips to Toppolo (Toplovac), south of the Dragona River on the Zone B-Yugoslav border in order to find new billets for troops. Since no suitable billets were found, comments have been made that the troops will be housed in tents.
- 5. Orders were reportedly received in Buie on 21 February 1951 to renovate a large building near the railroad station for troop accommodations. Freviously the building had been used for storing armored cars and light tanks.
- 6. Officials of Radio Koper have reportedly been instructed to choose a new location for their transmitter, probably on Monte Cerva (Crni Vrh).
- 7. In Zone A considerable publicity is being given to the allotment of one hundred and sixty million dinars for various construction and reclamation projects in that Zone in 1951. In the Peoples Committee reports describing the projects, no mention is made of any scheduled projects north of the Dragona (Dragonja) River.
- 8. Members of RIBA, the fisherman's cooperative in Capodistria and Pirano (Piran) have allegedly been warned that a change in the administration of the Zone could be expected.

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